

60,121-014

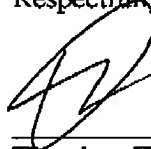
REMARKS

Applicant has amended this application in response to the office action. The claims 1, 6 and 7 require that there be a groove in an outer periphery of the plate to receive caulking. The examiner's rejections include no such structure. In addition, there is no reason to modify Rabal, et al. that has a seat mounted atop a far different structure than Carnahan, et al. There is nothing that would suggest utilizing the Rabal, et al. seal into the Carnahan, et al. structure. The rejection is based solely on hindsight.

In addition, claims 3 and 9 have been amended to set forth structure of the outer support structure that surrounds the post. These claims also define around the prior art that does not disclose any such support structure that surrounds the inner posts.

For the reasons set forth above, allowance of all claims is in order. Fees for the additional independent claims may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds. Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,




Theodore W. Olds, Reg. No. 33,080  
Carlson, Gaskey & Olds  
400 W. Maple Road, Ste. 350  
Birmingham, MI 48009  
(248) 988-8360

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States patent and Trademark Office, fax number (703) 872-9306, on November 23 2004.

  
Laura Combs